

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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RELATIVE LIKELIHOOD FOR THE PRESENCE OF NATURALLY OCCURRING ASBESTOS IN EASTERN SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

by Chris T. Higgins and John P. Clinkenbeard

The Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey, has completed a map and accompanying report on the relative likelihood for the presence of naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) in eastern Sacramento County, California. The map is based primarily on geologic information compiled and interpreted from published and unpublished geologic maps available at the time of the study. The report provides detailed information on the underlying geologic assumptions for the map, its accuracy, and its use and limitations.

The eastern part of the county is divided into different areas based on the relative likelihood of encountering NOA. These areas are defined as either moderately likely or least likely to contain NOA. In addition, zones of faulting and shearing are highlighted where they exist in areas moderately likely to contain NOA; these represent zones of increased likelihood for the presence of NOA greater than that of the surrounding areas. The presence of NOA is possible within all of these areas, but it is more likely to be present in some areas than others. The areas that are moderately likely to contain NOA are found mainly in the easternmost part of the county along a northerly trending region that extends from Folsom Lake to the Cosumnes River. These areas include parts of the communities of Folsom and Rancho Murieta. Areas least likely to contain NOA are present in this region also, and they comprise the remainder of the study area west of this region.

The purpose of the map is to provide information to government agencies and the public about the likelihood of encountering NOA within eastern Sacramento County. The available information used to create the map is not sufficient to determine if NOA will be found at a specific location within the county. A site-specific geologic investigation is required to verify the presence of NOA.

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